124.

A

Touch-Stone:

Whereby The

PROTESTANT RELIGION,

As it ſtands at this Day in

ENGLAND

May be Tryed.

That in the *Light of Chriſt*, People of *All Sorts* may ſee the *Degeneration*, and great *Apoſtacy*, which theſe Laſt Dayes and Perillous Times have produced.

And by *Comparing* the preſent Apoſtatized State of the *Proteſtant Church*, with the *Scriptures of Truth*, and its State *in the Primitive Purity thereof*, every Capacity *may Comprehend*, how miſerably *it is corrupted* in all its *Ordinances*, *Order* and *Diſcipline*, and how *it Differs* from the *Chriſtian Church*, and *Religion*; and is become *one with the Church of Rome* in very many particulars: Alſo it may appear hereby that the People called *Quakers*, are *the True* PROTESTANTS in *Practice*, and *Principle*.

And this is written, to the intent, that the good People of this Nation, may not be deceived with Reprobate Silver, inſtead of Gold Tryed in the Fire.

By a Friend to all that love Pure Religion, and ſollow after Righteouſneſs, *J. C.*

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I had Planted Thee a Noble Vine, wholly a Right Seed; How then art Thou turn'd into the Degenerate Plant of a ſtrange Vine unto me? Jer. 2. 20.

Reprobate Silver ſhall men call them, becauſe the Lord hath rejected them, Jer. 6. 30.

London, Printed for *Robert Wilſon*, in *Martins l'Grand*. 1660.

BRITISH MUSEUM

AN EPISTLE, or PREFACE, To the READER.

FRIEND,

WHat Religion, Perſwaſion *or* Judgement *ſoever Thou art of in the eſteem and account of Men, if the Eye of thy Underſtanding be opened to perceive* the Things of the Spirit of God, *and to* Diſcern the Signes of the Times, *thou mayeſt eaſily Apprehend, and plainly perceive hereby, how the* Profeſſed Proteſtants *are in very many particulars* Apoſtatized *from their* Primitive Principles, *and are become* One *with Thoſe* from whom they Separated themſelves, *and againſt whom* They proteſted *as* Antichriſtian, *and* Superſtitious Idolaters: *For what Tranſgreſſion is the* Church of Rome *guilty of, but the* Apoſtatized Proteſtants, *One way or Another, are* partakers with them *in their* Idolatry *and* Superſtition, *either in Worſhip, Miniſtry, Ordination, Conſecration, Order, Doctrine or Diſcipline? For was not the* Miniſters *of the* Church of Rome *made at Schooles and Colledges, and Ordained by Humane Conſtitution? and is not the* Proteſtant Miniſters *Made, and Ordained after the ſame manner? Did the* Miniſters *of the* Church of Rome

Sell their Prayers for Money, and Preach for Hire? and doth not the Proteſtant Miniſters *the ſame thing? Did the* Miniſters *of the* Church of Rome *Baptize Children, and Marry People for Money, and Church Women, and Bury the Dead for Money? and doth not the* Proteſtant Miniſters *the ſame Things, and after the ſame Manner for Money? Did the* Miniſters *of the* Church of Rome *ſing* Davids *Prayers and Propheſies in* Meeter *for Money, and ſay* Maſſe *in* Latine *for Money? doth not the* Proteſtant Miniſters *Sing after the ſame Manner in the* Church of England, *and Read the* Maſſe *in* Engliſh, *though called by a new Name of* Divine Service, *or* Book of Common-Prayer? *And did the* Papiſts *Exclaim againſt the* Proteſtants, *and make Lawes againſt them, to Condemn them as* Apoſtates *and* Hereticks, *and ſo proceeded againſt them by a Law to take away their Lives, Liberties, and Eſtates, for their Opinion and Principle in Matters of* Religion? *and have not our* Engliſh *profeſſed* Proteſtant Miniſters *procured Oppreſſing Perſecuting* Laws, *and* Penalties *to Impoſe upon the* Bodies *and* Eſtates *of ſuch as Differ from them, in Perſwaſion and Principle in Matters of* Religion, *and* Worſhip *of God?*

Did not the Proteſtants *out of tenderneſs of Conſcience, refuſe to Pay Tithes to the* Pope, *and his* Prelates? *and doth not their* Miniſters *now receive Tithes for Preaching, and Perſecute People, and Spoyle their Goods, and Devour Widdows Houſes, and Caſt Men of Tender Conſciences into Priſon for Non-Payment of Tithes? inſomuch, that more Innocent Men, in one Year in* England, *have*

been

been Impriſoned under the Government of pre-tended Proteſtant Magiſtrates, *at the Suit and Complaint of* Proteſtant Miniſters *for Non-Payment of Tithes, then in ſeverall Yeares, when the* Pope *had* Supremacy *over this* Nation: *And ſometimes the* Papiſts *Perſecuted the* Proteſtants, *for not Swearing; but now the* Proteſtants *can Condeſcend, and Conform to them, not onely to Swear, and Break the Command of* Chriſt; *but alſo Teach men ſo to Do; yea, moreover, to Perſecute, Fine and Impriſon Men, as Tranſgreſſours of the* Kings Laws, *and Contemners of* Authority *becauſe for* Conſcience Sake, *and in Obedience unto* Chriſts Command, *they cannot Swear at all.*

And doth not this both Juſtifie the Popes *Perſecuting about theſe things, and heighten their Condemnation, and manifeſt their Degeneration from their firſt Principles? For did not the Famous Reformers of the* Proteſtant Religion, *to the hazard of their Lives, Liberties, and Eſtates, proteſted againſt the* Popes Supremacy, *and Suffer under his Oppreſſing Lawes? and now they are fallen into the ſame Tranſgreſſion, and greater alſo, becauſe they Judged it in others. Let the* Proteſtants *be witneſſes againſt Themſelves in this Particular; and let the* Priſon-Houſes *in every* Province *of this* Nation, *teſtifie to their Faces, that they are become as Peſtilent Perſecutors as ever the* Papiſts *were, and for the ſelf-ſame Things: And yet there is a Strife between the* Miniſters *of the* Church of Rome, *and the* Miniſters *of the* Proteſtant Church, *who ſhall have the Preheminence; and they Pray, and Preach, and Prepare War, and*

Fight

Fight One againſt Another; and the Papiſts *Perſecute, Impriſon and Kill the* Proteſtant Miniſters, *as* Hereticks; *and the* Proteſtants *Perſecute, Impriſon, and Kill the* Popes Emiſſaries, *as* Jeſuites: *whereby it is Manifeſtly declared, that they are Both in the way of* Cain, *and out of the Order of* Jeſus, *and not in the Doctrine of* Chriſt; *For he came not into the World* to deſtroy *mens lives,* (*though* Heathens *and* Unbelievers) *but that the World by him might* have Life. *And all the Perſecution about* Religion, *both among* Papiſts *and* Proteſtants, *is, by pretended Authority of* Holy Church, *or* Higher Power: *And under this pretence of ſubjection to the Higher Power, both* Papiſts, *and* Apoſtatized Proteſtants *will Joyn with, and Affect that Religion which is neareſt unto, or one with the Worlds Intereſt; whereby it appears plainly, that the Leaders of the People have cauſed them to Erre, and go aſtray, like loſt ſheep, from the Right wayes of God; ſo that they are become Unſtable, like Water: For what Opinion, or Principle, in matter of* Religion, *the* Supreme Magiſtrate *ſeemes to Tollerate, Countenance and Protect, the moſt covetous, proud, perſecuting* Pariſh Prieſts *of the high Places will Preach up that, and Pray for it, and Swear for it, and Perſecute about it; ſo that ſince the great Apoſtacy of the* Proteſtants, *from their firſt Principles, ſuch as are ſincere ſingle-hearted, ſelf-denying* Chriſtians *have ſuffered Perſecution, and do ſuffer at this Day, as Contemners of* Authority, *or Tranſgreſſors of the* Kings Laws, *or* Non-Conformiſts *to the Higher Power; becauſe they cannot deny their* Religion, *and make*

Ship-

Ship-wrack *of their* Faith, *and* Good Conſcience, *nor change their Principles with the Times, as do thoſe double-minded men, who are unſtable, like the Water, and are toſſed too & fro with every Wind of Doctrine. And thus all the Perſecution about* Religion, *which the Saints have ſuſtained, hath been by vertue of* Authority, *Derived from the Higher Power, either* Eccleſiaſticall *or* Civill; *For inſtance, was not* Shadrach, Meſach, *and* Abednego *proceeded againſt as Offenders, for not obeying the Command of the King of* Babylon, *who, with the conſent of his Councel, had made a Decree, and cauſed his* Heraulds *to Proclaim, to all* People *and* Languages, *within the* Provinces *of his* Dominions, That whoſoever would not Bow to the *Image*, which *Nebuchadnezzar* had Set Up, ſhould be caſt into the midſt of a Burning Fiery Furnace. *Was it a fault in thoſe Three Servants of the moſt High God, to diſobey the* Higher Power? *or was it not rather a Manifeſtation of an Excellent Spirit, rather to Break the* Kings Command, *and* Expoſe *themſelves to the* Penalty, *then to Deny That God who is able to Save to the Uttermoſt? Or was it a fault in* Peter, *and* John, *to diſobey the higher power of Men, in Holy Order, ſo called, when the High Prieſt, with his Kindred, the Officers and Captain of the Temple, Uſurped Authority, as to Command them to Preach no more in the Name of Him, whom God hath Exalted to be both Lord and Chriſt? And did the firſt Famous Reformers of the* Proteſtant Church, *in its* Primitive Purity, *do well in denying the Higher Power, to wit, the* Popes Supremacy,

macy, *both over the* Catholick Church *in Generall, and over themſelves in Particular; and in denying all the Conſecrated* Hoſt, Crucifixes *and* Images, *&c? Or doth any* Proteſtant *think they Offended God in ſo doing? And might not the* Proteſtant Martyrs, *that ſuffered Death in the time of Queen* Mary, *have ſaved their Lives, and obtained places of great Preferment and Profit, if they could have changed their* Mindes, *and denyed their* Religion, *as a Teſtimony of their Subjection to the Higher Powers? Can any Conſcientious Man condemn any of thoſe above-mentioned, for Contempt of Authority? Or doth not the Witneſſe of God, in the Conſciences of all Sober men, Juſtifie them for their Faithfulneſſe to their* Principles, *as being eſtabliſhed in* Righteouſneſſe, *and fully perſwaded in their Mindes, in matter of* Religion; *a Thing of ſuch Weighty Concernment?*

But alas, How are the Proteſtants *fallen from their* Principles, *in matter of Church, Order, and Diſcipline! For hath not the* Proteſtant Church *Juſtified her Elder Siſter, the* Church of Rome, *in much of her* Superſtition *and* Idolatry? *And are they not as like* one *the* other, *as* Aholah *and* Aholibah, *Daughters of* one Mother; *and like as* Aholah, *which is* Samaria, *the eldeſt Siſter, committed Fornication in her Youth with the* Ægyptians *and* Aſſyrians? *So hath the* Church of Rome *played the Harlot with many Lovers, and committed great* Fornication, *and* Spiritual Whoredom: *and as* Jeruſalem the Younger *followed after the ſame Lovers the* Egyptians *and* Aſſirians *deſireable*

ſtreable Young men Captains and Rulers riding upon Horſes; ſo hath the Proteſtant Church doted on her Lovirs, and fallen from her firſt Purity and Virginity. And thus their Birth, Education, and Qualification, beſpeaks Them to be Daughters of One Mother; onely they differ in Name, and Outward Appearance, not in Nature and Quality; for they have both drunk deep of the Golden Cup of Fornication: and yet they Both lean upon the Lord, and pretend Both to be the True Church, the Lambs Married Wife, notwithſtanding their great Apoſtacy, and Degeneration. Indeed it was a Happy Day, and a time of great Refreſhment, when there was Firſt a Church at Rome, called Chriſtians, and the Preſence of God was amongſt them, and Great Grace was upon them, and the Word of God was in them, while they continued in the Power of God, and in the Apoſtles Doctrine; but when they had loſt the Power, and did not like to retain God in their Knowledg, and ſet up, and eſtabliſhed their own Righteouſneſs, inſtead of Gods Righteouſneſs; they then became Vain in their Imaginations, and their Fooliſh Hearts were Darkened; ſo that they Idolized the Form, and Bowed Down to the Images, and Likeneſſes of Good things, and Worſhipped the Creature, more than the Creator, who is over All, God bleſſed for ever; untill it pleaſed God to appear powerfully again, in a Remnant, whom he had appointed to bear witneſſe againſt the great Superſtition, and Idolatry committed amongſt them, who had the Form of Godlineſs, but denyed the Power; and theſe being ſenſible

both of the Great Bondage *and* Oppreſſion, *heavy Yokes, and hard Servitude, under which the* Creation Groaned, *and the* Saints Suffered, *they Proteſted againſt that* Uſurped Authority, that Ruled as Lords over Gods Heritage; *and ſo as the* Little Flock, that denyed the Epheſians Diana, *and the* Jews Synagogues, *were in ſcorn, called* Chriſtians; *Theſe, in contempt, were called* Proteſtants, *and without all Controverſie, the* Spirit *and* Power of the Lord *was amongſt them in the beginning: But alas, How is the* Proteſtant Church *fallen from his firſt Love, and turned into the* Degenerate Plant of a ſtrange Vine unto the Lord, *ſo that a* Lamentation *may be taken up for them; becauſe no Counſell from God directed unto them is accepted by them!*

How long hath God waited to be Gratious unto you? *And how often would he have gathered you,* as a Hen gathereth her Chickens under her Wings? *Hath he not ſent forth his Servants amongſt you,* to call you to Repentance, *but yee will not receive Inſtructions? And therefore are you ſcattered* like Sheep without a Shepheard, *becauſe your* Prophets *are become* Wind, *and the* Word of God is not in them; *How are you Toſſed and Shattered, mangled and confounded about your* Religion *and* Miniſtry, Church-Order *and* Diſcipline? *And how are you joyning your ſelves unto* Idolls, *like* Ephraim? *Have you not heard of the great Oppreſſion that your Fathers ſuſtained, both inwardly in Mind, and outwardly in Bodyes and Eſtates, under the* Popes Supremacy, *and the* Uſurped Authority *of the* Church

Church of Rome, *that you are now returning, and running back thither again with ſuch great Delight and Confidence? Is* Religion *become ſo unſtable in* England, *that it muſt be changed with the* Times, *to pleaſe Peoples* Fancies, *like the* Faſhions *of this World? And muſt the* Church of England *have its Order and Diſcipline, as a Faſhion for* Religion, *Tranſported from* Rome, *as proud people have Faſhions for their Apparell from* France? *How long will the Sons of Men take Pleaſure in ſuch* Vanity, *and Sell away their beſt* Jewells, *and peculiar Treaſure for ſuch ſmall* Triflles? *Was not the* Proteſtant Religion *purchaſed with many Prayers and Tears, and Tedious Sufferings, and with the Blood of a Noble Army of* Martyrs? *And will you now like the Rebellious* Iſraelites *return back to the bitter Rootes in the Land of* Darkneſs?

There is yet a little Light *in* You, *while you have it,* Believe *in it, before the Shaddows of the* Evening *be ſtretched forth, and Darkneſs Cover* You; *for when the* Night *cometh,* No Man can Work; *Remember therefore from whence* You *are fallen; conſider* Your Wayes, *and turn* Your Feet *unto* Gods Teſtimonies, *that the* Candle of the Lord may Shine upon You, *and that the* Word of God *may be as a* Light, to Guide your Feet *into the Way of* Peace, *and* Path *which leadeth unto the* Reſt, *which God hath prepared for* his People.

Plymouth the 19th of the 9th Month, 1660.

Tho. Salthouſe.

A TOUCH-STONE:

Whereby the Proteſtant Religion, *as it ſtands this day in* England, may be Tried.

That in the Light of Chriſt, *People* of All ſorts may ſee *the* Degeneration, *and Great* Apoſtacy, *which theſe laſt Dayes, and Perillous Times have Produced.*

FOraſmuch as at this time, there is much to do amongſt people concerning RELIGION, and CHURCH, and WORSHIP, and *ſuch like*; and alſo, there hath happened many Changes in *Church* and *State*, (ſo called) and that the *Proteſtant Religion*, is the Religion much ſpoken off amongſt people, and many ſay, they will have that *Religion*, *Church*, and *Worſhip*, which *their Fathers lived in*; and for which the MARTYRS *Suffered*, which they ſay was the True *Proteſtant Religion*.

Now then, if that was the *True Proteſtant Religion*, that the MARTYRS *Suffered* for, and that a *falſe Religion* which the MARTYRS *did deny*, then he that *is*, or will be a *True Proteſtant*, muſt be of the *ſame Spirit*, *Principle*, and *Practice*, which the *True Proteſtants* were of; that is, he muſt own *the ſame Foundation*, and *Principles*, that they *owned*, and deny *the ſame thing*, which they denyed; otherwiſe you give your ſelves *the Names* of what you are not, and ſo will be found *Lyars*,; for there were them, that ſaid, *they were Apoſtles* and *were not*, but were found *Lyars*.

Wherefore, for the better Satisfaction of all ſober people,

ple, who desire to be satisfied in these things, I shall here set down some of the Principles of those, who are called Famous, for Reformation, *amongst the Protestants*; from which the present Sect of people, who calls themselves by that Name, seem *to be much Degenerated*, and upon Trial will be found that they are such, who say *they are Protestants*, but *are not*, but *are Apostatized* from the *Spirit*, and *Principles* of the *True Protestants*, as much as the *Pope*, or *Bishop* of *Rome* is *Apostatized* from *Peter*; and do further Counsel, and Advise, all people in the fear of God, that they prove and examine their Religion, and see whether they are upon the Foundation *of the Prophets* and *Apostles*, and that their Religion, *be the True Christian Religion*; for it is as Impossible for people to be saved in a *Protestant Religion*, as in a *Papist Religion*, or in the *Turks Religion*, if it be not *the True Christian Christian Religion*; and therefore, since there are so many Religions, and so many Changes among men about Religion, it is of so much the more necessity, for every man and woman to Try for himself; and see whether his *Religion be Right*, and his Religion *the True Christian Religion*: And since God hath given, and hitherto hath afforded so general, and publike a benefit unto these Nations, as the Scripture of the *Prophets*, *Christ* and his *Apostles*; and not only so, but God hath also given unto people, *a Manifestation of his good Spirit* to enlighten their understandings, by which they may search and prove their wayes, and may every one try for himself, whether he be in the same Way, upon the same Foundation of the same Spirit, Principle and Practise, as *Christ* and his *Apostles were in*; and that the Scriptures of Christ, and the Apostles, be clear Evidence unto his practise, since people do own that to be their Rule; and if a man own that to be his Rule which he walketh not by, his own Rule shall Judge him, and such a one may well doubt, that his *Way* is not *Right*, nor his *Religion* the *True Christian Religion*.

And therefore touching the *Protestant Religion*, I shall set down a few *Examples*, (amongst many more) which may

may suffice to inform the Reader, whether he do in *Deed* and in *Truth*, own and practise the same *Religion*, which they who are counted the *Famous Reformers* of our Church, *Owned*, *Maintained*, and *Vindicated*, *in all their Tryalls*; and then compare together, and see whether these in our dayes, who give themselves the Name of *Protestants*, do not in their works deny the *True Protestant Religion*, as they who in their words *Confessed God*, but in their Deeds *denyed him*.

And first, to begin with the Testimony of *John Wickliffe*, who amongst many others, is set in the Front (as it were) *of our English Reformers*, out of the Black and Dark Night of *Apostacy*, into which the *Pope*, with the *Church* of *Rome* were fallen, and see whether the *present Protestants*, do not account the same things to be *Errour*, which the *Papists* charged against him for *Errour*, as any may see in the *Acts* and *Monuments* of the Church; some of which for the better satisfaction, and information of such, who desire to be informed, I shall here Insert.

As in pa. 561.4. Ar. *That if a* Bishop *or* Priest, *be in Deadly Sin, he doth not Order, Consecrate, nor Baptise.*

Now seeing that this is a principle *of the Protestant Religion*, let us see whether our *Priests* of these Times, can *Order*, *Consecrate*, or *Baptise*. Where be the *Priests* in our *Parishes* called *Protestants*, which do not live in some or other deadly *Sin*, such *Sin* as Excludes them out of Gods Kingdom, without Repentance? for said the Apostle, *Know ye not that the Unrighteous; neither Fornicators, nor Thieves, Idolaters, nor Adulterers, nor Effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with Man-kind, nor Covetous, nor Drunkards, nor Raylers, nor Extortioners, shall Inherit the Kingdom of God*: And now here, thou that sayest, thou art not of the *Protestant Religion*, Come honestly Try thy *Self*, and likewise try thy *Minister* by the *Scriptures*, and by *John Wickliffs* Doctrine, and see whether thou art a *True Protestant*, or a *True Christian*, or whether thou hast any Right in Gods Kingdom; for if thy *Priest* be such a one *as lives in any of these Deadly Sins*, then he can neither *Consecrate*, nor *Baptise*, by the

Protestant

Protestant Religion: And then what art thou the better for that thou call'it a *Sacrament*, since thy *Priest* cannot *Consecrate* the Bread and Wine? & what art thou the better *for his casting water upon thine*, or *thy Childes face*, seeing thy *Priest* cannot *Baptise*, as saith the *True Protestant*? & so thou art not yet a *Christian*, nor a *True Protestant*, thy supposed Baptism hath not made thee a Member of Christ, a Child of God, nor an Inheritor of the Kingdom of Heaven, *for it was no Baptism*; for the Baptism which now saveth, *is not only the washing away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good Conscience towards God*: And thus upon Tryal, you are found neither *True Protestants*, nor *True Christians*, and all your Ordinances of none effect.

And in the 9th Ar. it is said, *That it is against the Scriptures, that Ecclesiastical Ministers should have temporal possessions.*

Come then *Protestant*, hath thy Minister *temporal possessions?* then thy Minister is no *True Protestant*, neither canst thou be a *True Protestant*, whilst thou followeth such a one as thy *Minister*, who is not in the *Protestants Doctrine* and *Practice*, but in the *Papists*; nor in the Christians practice, for *John Wickliffe* saith, *it is against the Scripture*, and this is charged against him by the *Papists*; and if thou owneſt such a one to be thy *Minister*, who is endued with *temporal possessions*, then thou art one with the *Papists*, and against the *Protestants*, and against the *Scriptures*, and against *Christ* and his *Apostles*; for *J. W.* bore his Testimony against it, who was a *True Protestant*, and his Doctrine, Manners, and Life Justified, as may be seen in p. 585. of the same book, by a publike Testimony of the University of *Oxford*.

And in Ar. the 15. *That so long as a man, is in Deadly Sin, he is no Bishop, nor Prelate in the Church of God.*

So then Consider, doth thy *Bishop* or *Prelate live in Deadly Sin*, then he is not a *Bishop*, nor *Prelate*, in the Church of God: Therefore, if he is a *Bishop* or *Prelate*, it is in the Church of *Anti-Christ*, and all them that own such *Bishops*, or *Prelates*, are members *of the false Church*, the Church of *Anti-Christ*, the *Whore*, the *false Church*, and such are against the *Protestants* Doctrine; for the True Pro-

Proteſtant ſaid, *ſuch a one was no Biſhop, nor Prelate in the Church of God*, and unto this many gave their Teſtimony in Flames; and in the True Chriſtian Church, a Biſhop *muſt be Blameleſſe, the Husband of one Wife, Vigilant, Sober, of good Behaviour, given to Hoſpitallity, apt to Teach, not given to Wine, no Striker, not given to filthy Lucre, but Patient, not a Brawler, nor Covetous, one that Ruleth well his own Houſe*: Therefore, if a Biſhop be ſuch a one as Tranſgreſſeth *in any* of thoſe things, then *he is no Biſhop* nor *Prelate* in Gods Church, and the Scriptures are a witneſs againſt him, and the true Proteſtants witneſs againſt him; and thus he that owns him, is neither True Proteſtant, nor True Chriſtian.

And again, Ar. 17. *That Tenths are pure Almes, and that the Pariſhoners may, for the Offence of their Curats, Detain, and Keep them back, and Beſtow them upon Others at their own Will and Pleaſure.*

Now, is not this an Exceeding Shame to this Generation *of Proteſtants*, (ſo called) both *Prieſts* and *People*, who ſay *Tithes is due unto them*, and ſay, *that the People have no Propriety in them?* whereas it is ſo Evident, that the True Proteſtant ſaid, *it was the Peoples Almes*, as this of *John Wickliffe*; likewiſe *William Thorpe*, in His Examination doth very fully, and plainly, clear the Matter of Tithes to be out of Controverſie, Unlawfull to be paid to Chriſts Miniſters, and yet theſe *Proteſtants* claimes Tithes to be their Due: and ſaith one, *he that gives his Tithes to a Sinfull Prieſt, becomes a Partaker with him, in his Sins*; and ſo *our Prieſts* have turned *the Papiſts* out of their Tithes, and they have taken it, and the *Papiſts* Laws, and yet ſay they are *Proteſtants*, and they'l have Tithes like *Levy*, and yet ſay *they are Chriſtians*; and therefore muſt not do *Levy's Work*, nor *the Papiſts Work*; becauſe, ſay they, *we are Proteſtants*. What Abominable Wickedneſs is this, *to deny the Work*, and ſay it is Unlawfull, and *yet Exact the Wages* which was given for that Unlawfull Work, and ſo do the Work of neither, and yet take the Wages of both; and ſo plainly prove themſelves to be neither True Chriſtians, nor True Proteſtants.

And in page 587. Ar. 25. *All ſuch as be Hired for Temporall Livings to Pray for Others, do Offend, and Sin in Simony.*

Come, where be *the Proteſtant Miniſters* now in *England*, that are Free from this Offence, and are not Guilty of this Sin? Are not they all Hired to Pray and Preach, and to Sing? Will they do theſe things without Payment? and is it not a plain Caſe, that he that will not do a thing *without payment*, doth that thing *for the payment*? let Gods Witneis in all Conſciences Anſwer. And moreover, let the *Funeral Sermons*, and *Prayers*, and *Singing*, be a further Witneſs, how many of them will do it without a particular Agreement; and ſo they Sell their *Prayers*, their *Sermons*, and their *Pſalms*; and this is contrary to the *Proteſtants Doctrine*, and agreeable *to the Papiſts*; and the Teſtimony of the True *Proteſtants* is againſt you: and is not the Teſtimony of the Scriptures againſt you *Apoſtatized Proteſtants*? wherein it is ſaid, *freely ye have received, freely give*: and ſaid the True Proteſtant Miniſter, *I have Coveted no mans Silver, nor Gold; but theſe Hands have Miniſtred to my Neceſſities*, who bid the True Chriſtians *mark ſuch as did not follow his Example*. And thus the Record of the True Proteſtants, and True Chriſtians, is againſt you that *preach for Hire*, and *pray for Hire*; and the Foundation of your Practiſe is the Papiſts: And therefore, never talk ſo much of the Proteſtant Religion, and Chriſtian Religion, whileſt in Principle, nor Practiſe, you agree with neither, but are contrary to both; and the Teſtimony of both ſtands againſt you upon Record, as is further teſtified *by Swinderly*, in theſe Words, *Chriſts Law bids to miniſter ſpirituall things freely to the People.*

The *Pope*, with his Law, *Sels for money:* And ſaith he, *Chriſts Law teacheth Prieſts to be Poor*; the Pope Juſtifies, and Maintains *Prieſts to be Lords*: And whether our Prieſts in theſe dayes are ſubject to the Law of Chriſt, or the Law of the *Pope*, as is before ſhewed, let the ſpirituall Man Judge.

And likewiſe, it was a Principle amongſt the Proteſtants, *That every* Lay-Man, *in every place, may Preach, and Teach*

Teach the Gospell; and that every Good-Man though he be unlearned, is a Priest.

How Contrary is this Doctrine to the Practise of the Protestants of our Times! Is there any more Agreement with it, then there is between *Light* and *Darkness*? See whether the Scriptures be not a Witness against them, who say, that *None can be Ministers of Christ, but they must first go to Schooles and Universities, and have approbation from men, and learn the Art of Tongues, and take so many Degrees, and then be sent by Men.* Here the True Protestants, they witnessed against this Practise; and the Apostles were *Fisher-men, Tent-makers*, &c. And this *Way* or *Law*, of *making Priests* by *Schooles* and *Learning*, and *Arts*, and such like; was it not *the Popes Way*, when they had Erred from the Spirit of God? And the Testimony of the Scriptures, and of the True Protestants, is against it; and thus *our Protestant Priests* are made in the *Popes Way*, and according *to his Law*, and not according *to the True Protestants Way*, nor yet according *to the Scriptures*: And likewise *John Hus*, in the Defence of *John Wickliffe*, brings a Testimony against *the Papists* in his time from *Pope Urban*, making a distinction between *the Publike Law*, and *the Private Law*, and speaking of the Ground *of that Publike Law*, which was, *that no Priest of one Diocesse, should be received into another, without Letters Commendatory*: This Law was made to Stop and Hinder such, who for their Ungodly Life, were become Infamous, and so were cast out, and by this Law were hindred of getting in again, in a place where they were not known; but the Private Law saith, *He is written in the Heart, and the Spirit of God is a Law, and they who are led by the Spirit of God, are led by the Law of God*; And who is it, that may worthily resist them who are moved of God? This *John Hus* brought as an Instance against the Practise of the Papists of that Age; and now I bring it as an Instance against both *Papists* and *Protestants* of our Age: Neither did the True Prophets, Christ or his Apostles hinder any by an outward Law; but that was the Way of the False Prophets, *the Seed* of the *Bond-Woman*, the Persecutor of the *Free-Womans Seed*, which Practise is denyed by the True

Christians, and by the True Protestants; and against you Apostatized Protestants, it stands upon Record unto this day.

And in the 41. Ar. *All Oaths which be made for any Civil Contract, or Bargain, betwixt Man, and Man, be Unlawful.*

Likewise, *William Thorpe* being Charged, *for being against Swearing* in his Defence, thereupon doth quote *Chrisostome*, who saith, *It is a Sin to Swear Well*; and likewise, *That none ought to Swear by, or upon the Bible: because*, saith he, *it is made up of divers Creatures, which God hath forbidden in the Old Law to Swear by:* And *Walter Brute* is Charged, *That he affirmed, that no Christian ought to Swear, either by the Creator, or any other Creature.*

Thus are the present Protestants of our Age found to be Enemies against the Law of God, given by *Moses*, in that they Swear by a Bible, or upon it, which is made up of many Creatures, contrary to the Law of Christ, who saith, *Sweare not at all*; contrary to the Principles of the True Protestants, who said, *It was not lawfull to Swear by the Creator, or any other Creature*: And as *Swinderly* saith, *That Christs Law forbids Swearing, and the Popes Law teacheth Swearing, and Compells thereunto.* And thus the present Protestants (so called) are contrary to the Law of God, contrary to the Law of Christ, contrary to the Mind of the True Protestants, and are only agreeable with, or subject *to the Law of the Pope*: And further, Christ saith, *It was said in the Old Time, Thou shalt not Forswear thy Self, but shalt perform unto the Lord thine Oathes.* Read this, and Consider you Apostatized Christians, and Apostatized Protestants, have you kept your *Vowes*, your *Oathes*, your *Covenants*, your *Engagements*? was there ever a People like unto you? were not many of you Protestants, and Ministers Sworn unto the *King*, and Sworn unto *the Bishops*, and to maintain *the Articles of their Faith*, and *Canons of their Church?* and did you not break all this? and did not many of you Ministers Teach the People, it was lawfull so to do, and that it was the Cause of God that was Engaged against the *King* and the *Bishops*, and stirred up the People to Fight; and through you the Blood of Thousands hath been Shed: And

after

after that, did you not take *a Covenant*? and after that, an *Engagement*? Who is there amongſt you that is cleare of ſome, or other of theſe things? Have you, or are you True to any Thing, either to God or Man? What *Oath*, *Bond*, *Covenant* or *Engagement* will hold you? who ſhall believe you? What Wiſe Man will ever Truſt you? Have you not Rebell'd againſt *the Law of God*, and againſt *the Law of Chriſt*; and alſo broken *your Oath* with the *King*, and denyed your Faith *to the Biſhop*, and taken up a *Covenant* againſt *that Faith*, and then taken *an Engagement* againſt *Both*, and now forfeited all togeather? Was there ever wickedneſs like unto this? Can Expreſſions be found to manifeſt it? the Sin of all that ever went before you, could not hold Compariſon with you; the Blood of Thouſands of Souls may juſtly be charge upon your Heads, and all your Falſe Gloſſes, and Deceitful Coverings, ſhall not hide you from the Wrath of the Almighty, which is to be Revealed from Heaven in Flames of Fire: And who is it may bid you Repent? whoſe Eies are Blind, whoſe Ears are Dull, whoſe Hearts are Heardned, that you can neither See nor Hear, nor Feel the Weight of your Abominations, but are Treaſuring up Wrath, againſt the day of Gods Wrath; and who are ready to Worſhip any Image, rather then neglect to ſerve your God, which is your Belly.

But be it known unto you, that the Lord hath a Remnant which he careth for, *who cannot bow to your Image*, whileſt it is but an Image, though it may be *painted* and *decked never ſo beautiful*; though his Head may be *Gold*, yet we ſee that its feet *is partly Iron*, and *partly Clay*, and the whole body compounded of many Mettals; but the Stone is cut out of the Mountain without hands, that ſtrikes at the feet of it, which ſhall break it in pieces; your skirts are uncovered, and your ſhame and nakedneſſe appears in the ſight of all people: And thus in *your principles* and *practiſe*, you are found to be neither *true Chriſtians*, nor *true Proteſtants*, but *Apoſtatized from both*, as by theſe few examples (amongſt many more which might be inſtanced) doth appear; therefore, let none think it a ſtrange thing,

that

that the Lord hath yet a people upon the Earth, whoſe Garments have been waſhed, and have not been again defiled with your Abominations, but God hath kept them in all changes upon the Rock that is Higher then All; from whence they ſee all your Backſlidings, and who have not ceaſed to warn you thereof, though you have not regarded it; and who are ſeparated from you, and your unrighteouſneſs, and as it doth plainly appear, are of the ſame ſpirit and principle which the true Chriſtians were, and which the true Proteſtants were of; and can ſuffer, and do ſuffer under you, for the ſame things which the Proteſtants ſuffered *under the Papiſts*; and do deny the ſame things in you, which the true Proteſtants denyed *in the Papiſts*: As for inſtance, *The Proteſtants denyed Tithes*, ſo *do we*; *The Papiſts owned it, and received it*, ſo *do you*. *The Proteſtants denyed Swearing*, ſo *do we*; The Papiſts *owned it*, & *Perſecued for it*, ſo *do you*. The Proteſtants *denyed Eccleſiaſtical Miniſters to have Temporal poſſeſſions*, ſo *do we*; The Papiſts *gave it, and owned it*, & ſo *do you*. The Proteſtants *denyed ſuch as live in Deadly Sin to be Chriſts Miniſters*, ſo *do we*; The Papiſts *owned them*, ſo *do you*. The Proteſtants *owned that every Good Man, though not made a Prieſt, in every place might Preach, and Teach the Goſpel*, ſo *do we*; The Papiſts *denyed it*, ſo *do you*; The Proteſtants *denyed preaching for mony*, and *praying for mony*, aud *burying for mony*, and *ſinging for mony*, and *Churching women for mony*, and *ſprinkling children for mony*, ſo *do we deny all theſe Things*; The Papiſts *owned and received it*, and ſo *do you*. The Proteſtants *denyed that God dwelt in Temples made with hands*, or *that a houſe made of Lime and Stone*, and *ſet Eaſt* and *Weſt*, and *Conſecrated by the* Popes *Inſtitution to be a Church*, *but they met in Houſes* and *in Fields*, and *ſuch like places*, ſo *do we*; The Papiſt *ſet them up*, *Conſecrated and owned them*, and ſo *do you*. The Proteſtants owned *but a Biſhop and a Deacon in the Church of Chriſt*, *and denyed all your other Orders and Names*, ſo *do we*; The Papiſts *Inſtituted them*, *and owned them*, and ſo *do you*. The Papiſts *were perſecutors*, *and perſecuted the* Proteſtants, *for theſe and ſuch like things*; and *you are Perſecutors*, and *perſecute* us *for theſe*, and *ſuch like Things*.

The

The Proteſtants *denyed all the Inventions ſet up by the Pope in the will of man, contrary to ſound Doctrine, & the Scriptures of Truth*, ſo *do we*; The Pope *ſet them up, and upheld them*, and ſo *do you*.

Here all people may ſee, that *you*, and *we*, are contrary *the one* to the *other*; even as *you* and *the True Chriſtians*, and *True Proteſtants*, are contrary to *each other*; ſo that it may be plainly ſeen' to every ſingle eye, that we are not the children of one *Father*; and whether you or we, follow the Example of *Chriſt* and *his Apoſtles*, and of the *Martyrs* of *Jeſus*, let ſuch as read this with the Light of Chriſt Jeſus, with which they are enlightned, conſider; for now the day is come, in which you are all made manifeſt, you can hide your ſelves no longer, you were as good be what you are; for as you are, you ſhall be made appear, though you call the *Papiſt your Adverſary*, and the *Pope Antichriſt*, yet you take his *Tithes*, his *Houſes*, his *Colledges*, his *Schools*, his *Habits*, his *Names*, his *Maintainance*, his *Call*, his *Lawes*, and *Inſtitutions*, &c. yet call him *Antichriſt*, and the *Papiſt* Adverſary, and yet you know well enough, that all the Fabrick of your Church *ſtands upon his Foundation*, and that you are not upon the *Foundation* of the *Prophets* and *Apoſtles*, nor of the *true Martyrs* of *Jeſus*. Do you not make Chriſtians according to the *Popes Lawes*, by caſting a little water upon childrens faces; and it may be ſign them with the ſign of a Croſs, and ſo engraft them into the Number of Chriſts Flock; and at that very time, as you ſay, *make them Members of Chriſt, Children of God, and Inheritors of the Kingdom of Heaven?* Did Chriſt, or the Apoſtles, make Chriſtians after this manner? And thus all *Drunkards*, *Whoremaſters*, *Covetous*, *Proud*, *Idolaters*, *Swearers*, *Curſers*, *Blaſphemers*, &c. are made *Members of Chriſt*, *children of God*, *Inheritors of Gods Kingdom*, as you ſay; Who then, or what are they that are children of the Devil, who muſt inherit Gods Wrath? do you not hereby make the Scriptures void by your Traditions? Did the Apoſtles Inſtitute this way, to make Chriſtians, or the Pope? Are ſuch Members of the Church of God, or members of the Devil? And then do you convert

people

people by the ſame way, or keep up your Church-Order and Diſcipline, as the Apoſtles did? Do you not make a Law that all muſt conform to that way and worſhip which you ſet up, and that upon *paines, penalties, forfeitures,* and *corporal puniſhments*? and was this the way of Chriſt, and his Apoſtles, or the Popes way, who was the firſt inventor and ſetter up of this way, to convert and to build up? and one while the Presbyter he gets the power and the law of his ſide, and he preacheth againſt the *Biſhops*, and *Epiſcopal Church*, ſo called, and ſaith, the Book of Common Prayer, and all that, is *Antichriſtian*; and then many, or moſt of the *Epiſcopal men*, and *Miniſters*, they conform to that way, and they turn *Presbyters*, thus are they converted; but when another turn comes, and *Epiſcopacy comes in Faſhion*, and that is ſet up by a law, See then whether the *Presbyters* they'l not turn likewiſe, and take up that which they have declared to be *Antichriſtian*, rather then turn out: And is not all this for their Bellies? and is not their Belly their God, and yet talk of the *Apoſtles*, and of the *Martyrs*; but where is their Spirit? which of them all, when *Common-prayer* was denyed to be read in *Churches* and *Chapples*, ſo called, that continued to read it, and ſuffered for it? how many of them have ſuffered Martyrdome? their ſpirit is tryed, and found to be another ſpirit, and not the ſpirit of the *Apoſtles*, nor *Martyrs*, but the ſpirit of this world, who conformes thereunto in every change, and who ſeek the Glory thereof, and to Rule, and Lord over Gods Heritage, whoſe fear towards God is taught by the Commandements of men: how many of they, may after this manner be converted, without Whip, Goale, Fire, or Faggot.

And if they ſay they have Fought, and could Fight for their Religion, that doth not at all prove their Religion to be ever the Truer; for the *Papiſt* can fight for his *Maſſe*, and the *Turk* for his *Alcoran*, yet neither of them is a True God; and therefore do not boaſt your ſelves in your Religion, becauſe by a wonderful Hand of God, you have again opportunity to practiſe it, becauſe you have been

been so unfaithful to it, having so many of you turned with every turn, and served your selves by all times, and denied your God, and denied your Religion, many taken a *Covenant* against it, and most an *Engagement*; and therefore do not boast your selves, nor let your hearts be lifted up; but remember that in the dayes of King *Edward* the sixth, the *Protestant Religion* was then countenanced, and the *Papists* were discountenanced, but they did not suffer then for their Religion, but turned as you do, and have done: But when King *Edward* was dead, and Queen *Mary* Reigned, and the *Popish Religion* was again set up, How then did the *Papists* boast themselves? and with what cruelty did they persecute, burn and destroy the *Protestants*, as if they should never have been called to an account, or that their Kingdom had been sure to them for ever; so blind is persecution: And how near this may be a parrallel to these present times, let Time, and Tryal, and Gods Witness in all consciences testify.

Therefore let these examples be for your learning; for this is that which I am bold to affirm, and which I constantly believe, That if ever any sect of people, set up any form of Religion, Way of Worship, or Church-Government, and compel all others to a conformity, to that Way, Worship, or Church-Government (so called) by Fines, Imprisonments, or other corporal punishments, though such a people may go on for a time, and rejoice in their ill-gotten goods, and may drink the blood of the innocent without fear; *Yet when they shall* cry peace, peace, *sudden destruction shall come upon them, and the Lord will appear against them in his Wrath, and will sweep them away in his sore Displeasure, and neither leave them root or branch, but their memory shall Rot*; save only their Names shall become as Dung upon the face of the Earth, and be as great a *by-word*, *proverb*, and *Reproach* in this *Nation*, as *Fryars*, *Abbots*, and *Monks* have been: For this way of compelling people by Lawes, &c. to any sort of worship, doth at the best but make hypocrites, and so beget people into Treasons, Conspiracies, and such like; for there is many,

who for the fear of mans wrath, can, and will conform outwardly, when in their hearts they abhor the thing they practice; and to eaſe themſelves of ſuch an Intollerable Burden and Oppreſſion, will take any opportunity that may tend to their advantage, as common experience may witneſs.

But the Lord hath a Remnant yet, who cannot Bow to any Image, whether of things in Heaven, or in Earth; nor Conform in things relating to the Worſhip, and Service of God for fear of the Wrath of Man; nor Turn, nor Change, becauſe of theſe things, as others may do; but are of an upright Heart; and whatſoever they do in the Sight of Men, they do as in Gods Preſence, to whom they give their Honour, and Obedience; and whatſoever is Commanded by man, which is contrary unto their Conſciences, they cannot ſubmit unto, leaſt they ſin againſt God, & againſt the Light in their own Conſciences; but rather bear their Teſtimony againſt ſuch practices, & give up their bodies to ſuffer for the Teſtimony of a Good Conſcience, untill the Lord ſhall ſhorten the Dayes of their Adverſaries, and plead their Cauſe, for His Elects Sake; and ſo theſe ſuffer under all, and in Love Warn, Councell and Adviſe all, how they may eſcape the Evill Day, that is to come upon all the Children of Diſobedience; though their Hearts are many Times thereby made Flat, and their Eyes Cloſed, and their Eares Dull of hearing, that deſtruction may come upon them to the uttermoſt, and that the Lord may Deliver his People by his own Power and Strength without Sword or Speare, (as on their ſide) after he hath proved and tryed them, and fed them with the Bread of Affliction, and the Water of Adverſity, that ſo he alone may be glorified in his Veſſels of Wrath, who Treaſure up Wrath againſt the Day of Wrath, and Revelation of his Righteous Judgement; and alſo in his Veſſels of Honour, whom he hath purchaſed for himſelf, to ſhew forth the Glory of his Grace, after they have endured, as ſeeing him, who is inviſible, he may cloath them with Glory, and Immortallity for ever.

And whereas ſome ſay, *That ſome of the* Martyrs *took Tithes, and ſuch like.* That doth not at all prove thoſe things the

the more lawfull; for it was them (if there were any which did so) of the last Age in the time of *Queen Mary*, and not the first Reformers; such who in the Dayes of *King Edward*, had gotten into some ease in the flesh, and then they Invented (*Pa. 660.*) the Book of *COMMON-PRAIER*, and so suffered Ignorance to grow over them; for, as I said, that all along the beginning of Reformation, or the first Reformers, who brake through that great Cloud of Darkness and Ignorance, which was amongst those called *Papists*, who for the Truths sake, as they were made Partakers of it, brake through all Opposition without respect to any thing of this Life; and so they came more cleare out in their Testimony against the Apostacy of those, who pretended to sit in the Apostles Seate. But those in after-Times, when Authority gave Countenance to their Profession, or their Profession became mixed with the Worlds Interest, they were in the greater Danger to fall into Errour of that hand especially, which might advance the irearthly Promotion, and so that blinded their Minds, till God brought their Enemies upon them. As for example, when those men, who are called Ministers, were Persecuted in our Age by the *Bishops*, they being then more honestly Zealous of the Glory of God, Preached with great fervency of Spirit against the gross Ignorance, Superstition, and great Prophanness that was then amongst people, not so much minding earthly things; but then, when Opportunity was in their hands, and that wooden Yoak which was upon their Necks was taken off, their Zeal against Ignorance and Prophanes *grew Cold*; and then all their study was to set up another *Form* of *Church-Government*, and all that stood in the way of their Form, Preach against them as Hereticks, that to they alone might *be Lords*: And so, then of Proud, Lofty, Bloody, Persecuting Men, and such like, they make up their Societies; and withal the force that may be, Prepare an Iron Yoak for all others, who differ from them; and so the *same Places*, *Preferments*, *Honours* and *Profits*, they Coveted after; & this became their study; & their zeal towards God his Glory, and against Superstition, Ignorance, and Prophaneness this grew Cold;

and they became indeed much more wicked towards them that differed from them, then ever the *Bishops* were towards them: And so, because of this their wickedness, hath the Lord brought *the Bishops* over them again; and so this is the Day of their Tryall, who sometimes Preached against *this Kind of Church-Government* to be *Anti-Christian*, whether they will now own their Christ with the losse of all, or deny their Christ, to save what they can; for it is very long since, that we have had any of this Sort of Men called Ministers, though we have had such Great and Eminent Changes; yet I say, we have had few of them that have been *Martyrs*, who have suffered for their Religion; it may be some might suffer as such, who were managing designes, or for managing of such to imbrue the Nation in Blood, to uphold that Religion which they affected, in which they themselves might be *as Lords*, and Rule *as Kings* in the Earth; But when was it in all *these Changes*, and *Over-turnings*, that any of them suffered singly, for openly Professing, or openly Opposing any Sort of Religion, which the Powers of the Earth do set up and Countenance? Therefore it is evident, that this Generation *of Protestant Ministers*, are not of the same Spirit the which the *Martyrs* were; but when any kind of Religion becomes the Worlds Interest, and that such men who are of that Religion, or the Persons that shall be preferred to worldly Glory, Favour, and Friendship, then doubtlesse the most Faithlesse, Corruptest people of all will be them, that will first Imbrace it, & Cry it up, that by it they may be Advanced, *and so the love of Mony is the Root of all Evil.* A Form of Religion is many times held whilest the Power of Godliness is denyed: And thus *Swearers*, and *Cursers*, *Drunkards*, and *Whore-masters*, *Riotors*, and *Blasphemers*, These *now Cry up Protestant Religion*; but when the *Protestant Religion* was a Reproach, & was every where spoken against, and were in danger because of the Purity, and Holy Life of them, that did Profesle it, and *the Papists Religion* was Set Up, and Countenanced by Authority, then there were *no Swearers*, *Cursers*, &c. Protestants; but such

Persons

Persons they were *Papists*, and they called the Protestants *Hereticks*, and not fit to live. And thus for Honour, and Preferment, People Change their Religions in Name, while in Nature they are the same that ever they were; therefore Consider of these things in the Fear of God, and spend not your Money for that which is not bread, nor your Labour for that which doth not satisfie; and turn unto the Lord God in sincerity of Heart, and no longer follow them that are given to Change, that the Lord may turn unto you, and may have Mercy upon you, and may Visit you in Loving Kindness, before his Indignation goeth forth, and the Destroying Angell be sent from his Presence, with a Cup of Trembling to be poured forth, and the Lord cause you to feel his Hand in Judgement; and Come out of *Babylon*, the Place of Confusion, where they are building up, and throwing down; for a Bed of Torments is prepared for *Mystery Babylon the Mother of Harlots*, and into it she must be put, though she sit as *Queen*, and saith, *That she shall see no sorrow; yet her Misery shall come upon her as in one Day, and all that are found in her, who partake of her sins, must partake of her Plagues, for the Wine of the Wrath of the Almighty must She drink off without mixture, and then* Woe & Alas *for ever, & ever.*

Therefore rejoyce you *Holy Prophets*, & *Apostles*, and all you *Martyrs* of *Jesus*, who have suffered for the Testimony of Jesus, & the Word of God: For God shall avenge you of Her, & even as she hath done unto you, so shall it be done unto Her; the Lord will recompence into her Bosome, double, for all that ever She hath done.

And now this is the end, for which this is Written, that it may go abroad amongst those who know not the Truth; that people may unerstand *what the true Protestants* and *Martyrs were*, and *what they owned*; and that they may come to see that they are not *True Protestants* in their *Principles*, nor in their *Practice*; nor *True Christians* in their *Principles*, nor in their *Practice*, as by their own writings (which is approved of, *viz.* the Acts and Monuments of the Church) is manifest; and also the Scriptures of the Prophets, Christ, and his Apostles; and also that it may not seem

strange

strange unto people, that *We*, who are in this Age Persecuted under the Name of *Quakers*, are separated from that which is called the Church of *England*, since they are so far Separated, Degenerated, and Apostatized from the Doctrines, Principles, Spirit, and Practise of the True Protestants, as is manifest by their Writings, Sufferings, and also from the Doctrine, Principle, Spirit, and Practice of the Holy Men of God, Recorded in the Scriptures of Truth: and therefore we cannot but separate from them, though they call themselves Christians, and Protestants; for they are no more True Christians, nor True Protestants, because they call themselves so, then the Papists from whom the Protestants separated, were the True Church, because they said so: Therefore in Moderation Try all things, and hold fast that which is Good, and the Lord give Thee understanding:

Written by a lover of the Truth.

J. C.

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THE END.